

Good afternoon everyone, I feel so honored to be invited to this event.

My name is Luz Andrea Núñez, Five years ago I came with my family to this country as a Colombian immigrant, looking for the American Dream.

When we arrived it was a mixt of feelings, because everithing was different, but our biggest obstacle was the language.

Little by Little I started learning English, but I was feeling so frustaded because it was not enough to communicate.

In that time it was so hard for me even go to the Bank and ask a simple question.

One day in a meeting I heard Teacher Kris telling about the program Family Literacy, right away I knew it was going to work perfect for my family and me.

I started two years a go in the program, and now I think this is one of the best things that I found in the U.S.A.

The program now is an important part of our lifes, it has been helping me a lot in my Job, my son's school and our lifetime.

Besides English I have been learning many things about health, child development, history not to mention how important the relationship with people from different countries is. All this is an important experience for me.

For example the home visit is a part of this program that my children have enjoyed a lot. They ask me all the time when Mary is coming again. They really like the reading, games and talking. We really look at her like a family member. Last year in my son's school they celebrated grandparent's day, and we didn't have any one to invite, because we are far from our family, so we ask Mary if she could be an adoptive grandma and she said yes; that day, they had lunch together and did a lot of activities, it was special. About Esteban everything is working perfect. He has a lot of energy and the preschool is helping him to ^{focus and} follow rules and ~~discipline~~. This is so important for us because now he is learning how to behave. Also too learning colors, shapes, songs and more; and something that is very important for me too is that he is close to me, we leave and arrive

home together when we go to school.

For me this program is a great opportunity to learn English. I think this is going to help me not just now but in the future too. I started doing ESL, learning the basic English, I did that for two years and now I moved up to adult basic education, vocabulary and reading. Some day I can use this as a implement to work. Maybe I can be an English teacher, I really don't know but the thing I know this is the thing that I can use to find a job because I could not finish my career in Colombia.

All I can tell about Family Literacy is good, this is a blessing of GOD. Thank you to all the people that make possible this program. Also I want to say thank you too to my husband for helping me with the housework and laundry so I can go to school.

Thank you.

Luz Andrea Núñez 10-12-05.